

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OIC-01 SS-14 SP-02 SNM-02 EUR-08  
NEA-07 EA-06 ARA-10 AF-04 INR-05 L-01 /067 W  
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R 291623Z MAR 78  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7734  
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1  
TAGS: SNAR, UN  
SUBJECT: MEETING OF INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL  
BOARD (MARCH 20-23, 1978)

REF: 77 GENEVA 4562

SUMMARY: SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS OF THIS MEETING FROM  
US POINT OF VIEW WERE THE REELECTION OF PROF. PAUL  
REUTER (FRANCE) AS BOARD PRESIDENT AND THE BLOCKING OF  
ATTEMPT TO RECONSIDER EXTENSION OF EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT  
FOR BOARD SECRETARY STEPCZYNSKI (POLAND) END SUMMARY.

1. BOARD CONCLUDED SHORT BUT TENSE MEETING MARCH 23.  
ALTHOUGH MEETING WAS SCHEDULED TO FOCUS ON ILLICIT  
TRAFFIC PROBLEM, MAJOR ATTENTION OF PARTICIPANTS IN FACT  
CENTERED UPON PERSONNEL QUESTIONS. INCUMBENT SECRETARY  
SPEARHEADED BATTLES (WITH THE SUPPORT OF BOARD MEMBERS  
FROM USSR, POLAND AND FRG) TO PREVENT PROF. REUTER'S  
REELECTION AND TO HAVE HIS OWN EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT  
EXTENDED FOR ONE YEAR BEYOND HIS MANDATORY RETIREMENT  
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DATE IN AUGUST 1978.

2. DR. GARCES-GIRALDO (COLOMBIA) LAUNCHED AN EFFORT,  
PERCEIVED GENERALLY AS CONTRARY TO REUTER'S INTERESTS,  
TO POSTPONE ELECTION UNTIL MAY. EFFORT FAILED FOR LACK  
OF SUPPORT.

3. PROF. REUTER WON THE SECRET BALLOT ELECTION ON MARCH 20 BY A TWO-THIRDS VOTE OF THE 12 MEMBERS PRESENT. (PROF. FUENTE MUNIZ OF MEXICO DID NOT ATTEND THIS MEETING.) (TALLY: REUTER-8, CHRUSCIEL-1, SALEH-3.) PROF. SALEH (IRAN) WAS ELECTED FIRST VICE PRESIDENT (TALLY: SALEH-11, EHRHARDT-1), WHILE PROF. KAYMAKCALAN (TURKEY) WAS ELECTED SECOND VICE PRESIDENT AND CHAIRMAN OF THE ESTIMATES COMMITTEE (TALLY: KAYMAKCALAN-8, CHRUSCIEL-1, BARKOV-3). PROF. BARKOV (USSR) WAS ELECTED VICE PRESIDENT OF THE ESTIMATES COMMITTEE. PROF. BOVET (ITALY), DR. CHRUSCIEL (POLAND) MISS GOUGH (US), DR. KCHOUK (TUNISIA), AND DR. SADEK (EGYPT) WERE ELECTED TO SERVE ON THE COMMITTEE.

4. DURING MORNING MEETING MARCH 23, BOARD SECRETARY UNEXPECTEDLY REQUESTED BOARD ROOM TO BE CLEARED OF ALL OTHER STAFF MEMBERS AND THEN READ A PREPARED STATEMENT URGING BOARD RECONSIDER ITS DECISION OF LAST MAY AND CALLING FOR HIS EXTENSION FOR ONE YEAR. PRESIDENT REUTER THEN ASKED THE SECRETARY TO LEAVE THE ROOM AND ASKED THE BOARD WHETHER IT WISHED TO HAVE A MEETING TO RECONSIDER THE SUBJECT. HE STATED THAT HE WOULD VOTE AGAINST. PROF. CHRUSCIEL, SUPPORTED BY BARKOV AND EHRHARDT, MADE A FORMAL PROPOSAL TO THE EFFECT REQUESTED BY STEPCZYNSKI. REUTER, HOWEVER, PUT TO THE FLOOR THE QUESTION OF WHETHER A MEETING SHOULD BE HELD

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TO DISCUSS THE TOPIC FURTHER. THE RESULTS WERE AS FOLLOWS:

A. AGAINST MEETING ON SUBJECT: BOVET, GOUGH, KAYMAKCALAN, KCHOUK, REUTER, SADEK.  
B. FOR MEETING: BARKOV, CHRUSCIEL, EHRHARDT, SALEH, SHIMOMURA.  
C. ABSTAIN: GARCES-GIRALDO.

THE BOARD'S DECISION AGAINST THE MEETING CONCLUDED THE DISCUSSION FOR THIS SESSION.

5. COMMENT: IN JUNE 1977, MISSION REPORTED REFTEL THAT IT WAS "CONCERNED THAT DELAY OF FINAL SYG DECISION... MAY PROLONG A PERIOD OF INDECISION AND UNNECESSARY FRICTION WHICH HAS ALREADY PROVED DELETERIOUS TO WORK OF BOARD SECRETARIAT. WE APPREHEND THAT UNTIL DECISION IS FINAL, MR. STEPCZYNSKI WILL PREOCCUPY HIMSELF WITH ATTEMPTS TO OVERTURN OR OVERRIDE BOARD DECISION, AND THAT THIS PREOCCUPATION WILL TEND TO DEFLECT FOCUS OF SECRETARIAT FROM SUBSTANTIVE WORK OF INCB."

6. ALTHOUGH ALMOST A YEAR HAS PASSED, SYG HAS NEVER-THELESS NOT YET MADE DECISION, ON THE ADVICE OF ASYG

DAVIDSON, WHO IS CONCERNED THAT BOARD MIGHT CHANGE ITS MIND AFTER A DECISION IS MADE, THEREBY EMBARRASSING THE SYG. MISSION BELIEVES, TO THE CONTRARY, THAT BOARD WOULD BE ESTOPPED PRACTICALLY AND PROBABLY LEGALLY FROM MAKING ANY CONTRADICTORY RECOMMENDATION ON TOPIC AFTER SYG HAS ACTED ON EXISTING RECOMMENDATION. MISSION BELIEVES DAVIDSON'S NOVEL APPROACH HAS KEPT THIS SORRY SAGA CHURNING AWAY POINTLESSLY AND TO THE DETRIMENT OF THE BOARD'S SUBSTANTIVE ACTIVITIES.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 GENEVA 04701

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7. MISSION NOTES THAT NEXT INCB MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR MAY. WE WOULD HOPE THAT THE QUESTION OF THE SECRETARY'S MANDATORY RETIREMENT, (EFFECTIVE IN AUGUST) WOULD AS ROUTINE MATTER BE CONCLUSIVELY SETTLED BEFORE THE MAY MEETING, IN ORDER TO AVOID HAVING THIS MEETING WASTED AS WELL.

8. AMERICAN INCB MEMBER PLANS VISIT WASHINGTON IN MID-APRIL AND WILL BE AVAILABLE TO DISCUSS SITUATION.  
END COMMENT. VANDEN HEUVEL

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## Message Attributes

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